

Year." The parliaments on the personal look backward and forward would best be silent ones, pencil and paper being used.

Spend ten or fifteen minutes in prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in a gracious wave of revival with the New Year and century.—J. F. C.

SCRIPTURE HELP

I The purposes of God toward us

To be our Guide, John 16:13-15; Isa. 58:11.

To give us power, Isa. 40:29-31; John 14:12, 13; Acts 1:8.

To bless us, Phil. 4:19; Psalm 67:5-7.

II Our purposes toward God

To obey him, Acts 8:26-35, and Heb. 11:8-10.

To serve him, Josh. 24:14, 15; Acts 27:23; Rom. 12:1.

To be a blessing to others, Gal. 6:1, 2; Rom. 15:1, 2; I Cor. 1:3, 4.

III Some new things for the new century

A new view of Christ, Matt. 17:8.

A new hope, Col. 1:27.

A new heart, Ezek. 11:19.

A new name, Rev. 2:17.

A new blessing, John 14:16.

A new life, II Cor. 5:17.

A new world, Rev. 21:5; Isa. 66:22; II Pet. 3:13.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

How can we derive the most good from our past failures and successes?

How can our mistakes be made of value to us?

What is the place and worth of purpose in individual life?

Only a new purpose will make a new year. Will you explain?

What changes have been made in religious thought during the present century and what is the significance of them? (Let pastor answer)

Outline briefly the progress of missions during the century.

What is the outlook for missions in the coming century?

In what ways has our society developed during the past year?

What new fields of usefulness are now open and opening to us and how can we make best use of them?

A FORWARD LOOK—Phil. 3:12-14

Topic for January 6 A new year for Christ.

This is the first meeting of the new year and furthermore of the new century. We have never held such a meeting before, neither shall we ever hold the like again. The occasion ought therefore impress us as the very best to make a forward look. He indeed is dull not to say dead that is not moved by the thought of the new century with its wondrous possibilities. No century ever inherited so much as the one into which we are now entering. For this reason alone we are justified in expecting much to be accomplished in it. But it will be what we make it. Great forces have been in formation and development during the past century: it remains for the church to seize them and use them to the extending—and broadening and deepening of the kingdom of God on the earth. Thoughtful men everywhere appreciate that the world is on the verge of a tremendous revival of religion. Certainly the signs of the times point in that direction. Do we not wish to share it and help bring it about.

This meeting should be one devoted to planning larger work for Christ and the church. God is going before us now as before his ancient church and his command to us thru current events is "Go Forward."

SCRIPTURE HELP

1 To look behind is disobedience, Isa. 48:18.

2 To look behind brings sorrow, Psalm 51:7, 8, 16, 17.

3 To look behind brings failure, Matt. 17, 19, 20; Luke 15:17-19.

4 To look before brings joy, Psalm 126:6; Matt. 5:11, 12; Phil. 4:4-7.

5 To look forward means obedience, Isa. 1:18, 19; Acts 26:19, 20; Heb. 5:8.

6 To look forward means victory, Rom. 8:37-39; I Cor. 15:57; Gal. 6:9.

7 Free from the past, II Cor. 5:14-17.

8 Benefit of looking forward, Deut. 34:16, and Acts 7:55-59.

9 Benefit of looking upward, Ps. 122:1-8.

10 Power of singleness of purpose, Eccl. 9:10; Matt. 22:35-39.

TOPICS FOR SHORT TALKS

1 What did St. Paul mean when he said he "forgot the things that were behind?"

2 Is there any such thing as "standing still" in the Christian life?

3 Of what use to a Christian is the forward look?

4 What is the goal of all Christian activity?

5 What use should we make of the past?

6 What is the worth of the aimless society?

7 What are some of the pressing needs of the coming century?

8 What can we do as a society to help supply these needs?

9 In what ways we hope to increase the usefulness and efficiency of the society this year. (Let officers elect answer)

10 In what ways can our society best open the new century? (Open parliament. Let all members respond in one word)

SOME PLANS FOR THE LEADER

Open with many prayers for God's blessing on the new year. Ask each Endeavorer to pray for a blessing on one thing, and that alone.

Follow with an open parliament. Ask: "What are some things you are sure of in the coming year?" Instance, God's presence. Call on the Endeavorers to complete the list.

Another season of sentence prayers. Let these be full of thanksgiving.

Next the leader will ask: "In return for God's kindness, what will you do for him during the year?" Hold a new year's resolution service. It would be a good plan to have the resolutions written, anonymously, and then read by the leader.

More prayers, for strength to keep these resolutions.

General participation, with a closing word by the pastor.—A. R. W.

W. D. FURRY.

The Painting Fund

The painting fund now amounts to about one hundred dollars. We must obtain three hundred. What has been raised has come from a few societies and individuals. The societies as a whole, have not responded to the calls. Only one society reported to me a Thanksgiving offering. Louisville, Ohio, a small society sent me a draft for \$10.25. Many others could do likewise. I again appeal to the societies to come to our rescue. The societies in conference assembled accepted the responsibility of painting the college buildings. It is not the work of your president. Let this fact be borne in mind. I can ask you to do only what you take upon yourself in conference thru your delegates.

There is no reason why we should not raise this amount and that quickly. Many societies and large ones have not responded at all. This is discouraging both to your officers and to the other societies. I certainly tire asking you to contribute. I have no personal interest in the matter. I want to point out the ways best to increase the usefulness and efficiency of the society. This has been the aim and end of all my writing. The work has not, perhaps, been a

success. I am willing to bear a part. But it never will be a success until there is a hearty co-operation of all. We fail here. Too many societies think that they can "live unto themselves." Letter after letter, appeal after appeal goes unheeded. Not one tenth of my letters have been answered. Pastors fail here too. This is sufficient to discourage any person. I am ready to give my office to another with whom you will co-operate. I hope this may bring about a heartier co-operation. Can we not raise this fund at once?

WM. D. FURRY.

The Christian Life

A TESTIMONY: WHY I LOVE THE COMMUNION SERVICE

MARCUS A. WITTER

In the ordinances that Jesus instituted on the memorable night of his last supper, there are lessons so precious to me that I always take great pleasure in observing them. Each of the three ordinances of that night has its special invaluable lessons for us that could be taught so perfectly in no other way. Every time I partake they become dearer to me and I learn more and more of the life Christ wants me to live.

When I wash my brother's feet I pray, "Dear Father, grant that thy spirit may make me ever as ready to serve my brethren in every way as this ordinance teaches me to be. Grant that my sole aim in life may be to serve with a perfect service. And I pray, Heavenly Father, that as in this washing I am cleansing my brother, so may I ever be zealous in keeping my brother from sin and in helping him to be set free from all sin. Grant that he may be cleansed now from all impurity that as he participates in these ordinances and thru out his whole life he may be one of Thy children, made worthy to be called thy child by the cleansing blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ."

Then as my feet are being washed, I pray, "Heavenly Father, even as thou hast already cleansed me from my life of sin in the washing of regeneration, and as thou hast repeatedly forgiven me for sins committed since then, I now pray that thou wilt cleanse me from all that defileth. Make me pure and worthy to partake of the sacred emblems of body and blood of my Savior.

When all are seated around the tables and we have thanked our Lord for his bounteous gifts, for fellowship with him and one another, then I think of the time that is to come. When we shall be changed into his likeness and all God's children will feast with him with neither pain nor grief nor impurity to mar that eternal joy, what a love feast that will be!

I think of the blessed fact that we stand on a common level. That none of us are so small that he cannot change us into his likeness and none great enough to be anything without that transformation. I pray that we may be one even as the Lord Jesus desired that we should be.